(b) There are a number of factors leading to human rights violations in Jammu and Kashmir including terrorising of the civilian population by the militants. However, there has been a definite and distinct improvement in the overall situation after the installation of a democratic government in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) India has a well established judicial system and legal institutions for the redressal of grievances pertaining to the violation of human rights. The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. Came into effect from October, 1993 and the National Human Rights Commission has been set up to, inter-alia, enqure into violation of human rights and review the constitutional safeguards and laws for the protection of human rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation. In keeping with this mandate, the NHRC has been making recommendations from time to time in its annual reports as well as on specific issues in order to ensure the effective implementation of the constitutional safeguards and laws for the protection of human rights.

The Central Government has been pursuing the issue of establishing State Human Rights commission and Human Rights Courts in different States with the concerned State Governments. So far State Human Rights Commission have been established in West Bengal, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Manipur, Rajasthan, Kerala and J&K.

The Government of India have issued detailed instructions/guidelines to the State Governments regarding measures to prevent human rights violations. Human Rights as a subject has been introduced in the curricula of severed Police Training Institutes, including the premier training Institute for IPS Officers, viz., the National Police Accademy, Hyderabad. Based on the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission, the Government has prepared a three tier training syllabus for the police and para-military forces officers and circulated to the State Governments and CPMFs for implementation. It is the policy of the Government not to condone any human rights violation and to ensure that the constitutional safeguards and laws for protection to human rights are implemented effectively.

Home Minister's Assessment of ISI activities

2391. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Home Minister has observed in a public statement that Pakistan is a terrorist State and attributed the growing lawlessness in the country to increased I.S.I. activities;

(b) if so, the basis for such an assessment; and

(c) the specific steps contemplated by Government to reverse such a process?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Home Minister has, on a few occasions, expressed deep concern at Pakistan sponsored terrorism and the activities of Pak ISI.

(b) Since 1984, terrorists trained, equipped and indoctrinated by Pak ISI have been instrumental in causing the deaths of a large number of civilians and security forces due to various terrorist actions. Their acts have also resulted in considerable damage to property in the country. Several modules of ISI activities have been discovered and neutralized which proved the involvement of Pakistan's ISI in sponsoring terrorism.

(c) Government have consistently demanded that Pakistan should desmantle the infrastructure that exists in Pakistan for training terrorists, close down its training camps and hand over terrorists and fugitives from the law who have been given sanctuary in Pakistan.

Government have also brought to the attention of the International Community Pakistan's active involvement in the instigation and sponsorship of terrorism against India. Government is aware of the activities of the ISI and is keeping a close and continuous watch on the situation and all necessary effects including sustained operations against terrorists and subversive elements are being made to ensure that such designs are not allowed to succeed.